Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

PAGE 01 VIENTI 06732 290850Z

16
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W
---------- 100278
R 290636Z SEP 73
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6051

S E C R E T VIENTIANE 6732

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PINR, PINS, PFOR, LA, VA, US
SUBJECT: MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROVISION OF LAO PROTOCOL

REF: VIENTIANE 6457

1. PRIOR TO RETURNING TO WASHINGTON ON CONSULTATION, DCM CALLED ON SOUVANNA AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 28. DCM SAID HE WOULD SURELY BE CLOSELY QUESTIONED IN DEPARTMENT ON LEGAL BASIS FOR CONTINUATION OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO LAOS IN VIEW OF INTERDICTORY LANGUAGE OF FEBRUARY AGREEMENT AND SEPTEMBER PROTOCOL ON INTRODUCTION OF WAR MATERIALS. THEREFORE IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT FOR US TO KNOW HOW PRIME MINISTER RECONCILED CONTINUATION OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE WITH

RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY THE 1973 LAO SETTLEMENT. PRIME MINISTER ANSWERED VERY MUCH ALONG LINES OF REFTEL THAT PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION WHICH IS TO BE FORMED WITH PARTICIPATION BY LPF MINISTERS IS ONLY A RESHUFFLED VERSION OF EXISTING COALITION GOVERNMENT AND THUS WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE SAME RESPONSIBILITIES AS EXISTING GOVERNMENT. THEREFORE, AS SOUVANNA SEES IT, REQUEST HE HAD TRANSMITTED ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1962, FOR US MILITARY ASSISTANCE REMAINS VALID UNLESS SPECIFICALLY REVOKED.

2. DCM THEN ASKED WHETHER PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE
SECRET

PAGE 02 VIENTI 06732 290850Z

WILLING TO WRITE LETTER TO AMBASSADOR STATING THAT A RESHUFFLED COALITION GOVERNMENT WOULD SOON BE FORMED AND THAT UNTIL THE NEW GOVERNMENT HAS MADE KNOWN ITS VIEWS, HIS 1962 MILITARY ASSISTANCE REQUEST REMAINS

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

VALID. PRIME MINISTER WAS NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT
DOING ANYTHING AT THIS TIME, BUT AGREED TO WRITE SUCH
A LETTER IF IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO THE ADMINISTRATION
IN ITS DEALINGS WITH CONGRESS.

3. DCM SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS MATTER FURTHER IN
WASHINGTON AND THAT AMBASSADOR WOULD KEEP PRIME MINISTER
INFORMED OF OUTCOME ON THIS ISSUE.
WHITEHOUSE

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, NEGOTIATIONS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 29 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
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